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News Release

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Update on Lightning Fires

Yreka, CA — Major lightning storms occurred during the nights of June 5 and 6, 2016 in Siskiyou County. As a result, ten wildfires started on the Klamath National Forest. Seven of the fires, occurring near Happy Camp, ranged in size from 0.1 acres to 2 acres. Thanks to aggressive efforts by firefighters the Lower, Elk, Little Grider, Peak, Jackson, China, and Horse Fires are declared out. The 0.5 acre Ault Fire, in the Trinity Alps Wilderness southeast of Cecilville, is also declared out.

The five acre Dillon Fire, located about 15 miles south of Happy Camp in the upper Dillon Creek drainage west of Highway 96, is now 100% contained and crews are monitoring it. This successful conclusion is the result of key efforts by eight smokejumpers and two hotshot crews (40 people).

The Pony Fire is the remaining challenge. The fire is located about 15 miles south of Happy Camp and west of Highway 96 at Pony Peak. It is located in extremely steep terrain with limited road access and an abundance snags and down logs, the result of the 2001 Swillup Fire. The fire is currently at 2,706 acres and 20% contained.

A Type 2 Incident Management Team was activated June 9, 2016 to assist the firefighting effort on the Pony Fire. This is one of the earliest times that a Type 1 or 2 incident management team has been activated for the Klamath National Forest. Updates on the Pony Fire are available on InciWeb at http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/.

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